



Council on Child  
Safety and  
Family Empowerment

**GOVERNOR DUCEY'S OFFICE OF YOUTH, FAITH AND FAMILY**  
**COUNCIL ON CHILD SAFETY AND FAMILY EMPOWERMENT**

**SUPPORT SUBCOMMITTEE**

**September 17, 2019**  
**10:30 AM**

**DRAFT**

**1700 West Washington Street Suite 230**  
**Conference Room A**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85007**

*A general meeting of the Support Subcommittee was convened on June 18, 2019, at the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family, Suite 230, Conference Room A, Phoenix, Arizona, 85007.  
Notice having been duly given.*

Members Present (6)	
Berisha Black, Chair (by phone)	
Andrea Stuart, Co-Chair (by phone)	
Marcia Stanton (by phone)	
Ann Carver (by phone)	
Kim Vehon (by phone)	
Mark Klym - proxy for Susan Smith (by phone)	
Members Absent (1)	Staff/Guests Present (1)
Katie O'Dell	Cecilia Fernandez
Leslie Reprogle	Pastor Todd Chambers
	Brenda Cochran
	Rhonda Lake
	Katrina Harrell

**MEETING MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Berisha Black, Co-Chair, called the Support subcommittee meeting to order at 10:36 AM with six members present, one member absent, and one staff present.

**2. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS**

Ms. Stuart welcomed everyone and asked members to introduce themselves. Staff from Pure Heart Church introduced themselves and their roles as the clinical team over the support groups.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Stuart asked members to review minutes from the August 20, 2019 meeting and called for a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Marcia Stanton motioned to approve the minutes and Mr. Mark Klym seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

#### **4. ACEs SUPPORT GROUP**

Members of the Pure Heart clinical team were asked to overview the following items:

- How support groups are going at Pure Heart
- How people stay connected
- How can we (Support Subcommittee) move forward from the pilot phase

Pastor Todd Chambers explained that Pure Heart holds 15 different support groups weekly on Monday nights. Groups vary from topics such as addictions, grief, dependency, children's and early adolescent group. Participants are able to show up any Monday and are able to move between groups depending on their needs. Pastor Chambers states that they are up to about 150 participants per week in which about 80% are from the church, 10% are public and about 10% attend for the new Crossroads groups.

Groups are facilitated by volunteer peer facilitators who understand trauma and are committed to facilitate 52 Mondays in the year. Pastor Chambers states that they don't experience a lot of turnover with facilitators, but it is difficult to find people who will commit to every Monday. Facilitators are trained by the Arizona Trauma Institute to be able to offer immediate crisis support, to value the connection and relationship with participants and to be sensitive to the needs of the group. Facilitators do community referrals when needed and try to do a warm handoff as much as possible.

Pastor Todd overviewed the Crossroads groups as an intensive addictions program for men and women that focuses on the whole person. The Crossroads groups will be led by licensed professionals and will be paid as Medicaid providers and will accept private insurance. Facilitators were asked if the Crossroads groups are similar to the Celebrate Recovery program, Ms. Brenda Cochran explained that she wanted to change the format and philosophy of recovery. She wanted to bring a curriculum that was "deeper" and more intensive. In Pure Heart's group, participants will go through the group, graduate and move on and follow their calling.

Pastor Todd states that a few years ago, they would screen participants for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and found they consistently had a majority of participants with 4 or more ACEs. They chose to stop doing the ACEs screenings for the most part and decided to offer support groups in the vein that the majority of their participants are coming in with trauma.

Ms. Katrina Harrell overviewed the children's group stating that the facilitators assess the issues the children are experiencing. They use age and topic appropriate movies to discuss these issues. The facilitator uses scripture in the lessons and has the children do homework based on that day's teaching.

In response to a question asked about financial sustainability to run Monday night groups for 52 weeks of the year, Pastor Todd Chambers states that they run on a \$6000/year budget. These funds are used to pay for food for children and participants. They offer childcare, which is paid through the church's budget and Pastor Chambers salary is also paid through the Pure Heart's budget.

Ms. Berisha Black gave an overview of the ACEs Support Group Pilot and discussed the subcommittee's plans to expand statewide as well as research ways to sustain the groups. Ms. Black also expressed that the subcommittee would like to look into offering a virtual support group.

**5. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS**

None discussed

**6. FUTURE MEETING DATES**

October 15, 2019

November 19, 2019

**7. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

No public present.

**8. ADJOURN**

Ms. Black moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:52 AM with no dissenting votes.